

The Administration and Staff of the NBCC wish to thank all of our Armed Forces personnel for their service, and we wish all a blessed and safe Memorial Day!



Answering two calls... as priest and naval officer
Rev. Mr. Mark Bristol, a Transitional Deacon to be ordained in June 2016, follows in the footsteps of pioneer Fr. Leslie Branch, the first black Catholic priest to serve as a U.S. Navy Chaplain. Bristol acknowledges he has big shoes to fill, and that Fr. Branch forged the path, but adds that it is a path that few black Catholic priests have chosen to follow.



**Setting the Mark: Father Leslie Branch,
first Black Catholic Navy chaplain**

Ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Washington in 1971, Fr. Branch served several parishes within the archdiocese, as priest and associate pastor.



The National Black Catholic Congress congratulates Reverend Mr. Mark Bristol, Transitional Deacon with the Diocese of Brooklyn and the Archdiocese for the Military, on his upcoming ordination to the priesthood. Hooyah!

On board the USS John C. Stennis for some on the job training along with Baptist and Pentecostal chaplain candidates

For full article go to (<http://www.catholicnews.com/services/englishnews/2015/priests-who-join-military-as-chaplains-answering-a-call-within-a-call.cfm>),

NBCC Interview with Rev. Mr. Mark Bristol, Priest and Chaplain
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